



CITY OF *Saco* **POLICE**

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March 29, 2021

Senator Craig Hickman
Representative Mike Sylvester
Committee on Labor & Housing
State House
Augusta, ME 04333
RE: LD 1103

Senator Hickman and Representative Sylvester,

I am writing this letter in support of LD 1103, *An Act to Allow a 5-Year Open Enrollment in the Participating Local District Retirement Program for Certain Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and Other Municipal Employees.*

Currently, if an individual is hired by a municipality participating in the local district retirement plan through the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS) and they initially decline joining MPERS, they cannot join later. The only way for this employee to join MPERS is to resign from the municipality employing them and take a job with another municipality at which time they have the option to join MPERS. Passage of this bill would allow employees vested in their communities to join MPERS rather than having to resign and start over working in another municipality just to have the ability to join the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

In closing, I would like to thank Senator Bailey for presenting this bill along with cosponsors Senators Baldacci, Claxton, Curry, Maxmin, Rafferty and Representatives Sylvester and Gramlich.

Respectfully,

Jack Clements
Chief of Police

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